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SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

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h1 [00043] As discussed above, isolated cycles are those cycles where each entity in the cycle depends on another entity in the cycle, but no output entity depends on any entity in the cycle. The algorithm goes through a process of identifying all of the isolated cycles in the sub-model. According to the invention, one of the entities in each detected isolated cycle is selected as an output entity. The algorithm arbitrarily selects a particular entity in the isolated cycle as the output entity for that cycle as identified by the step of box 84. Next, the algorithm systematically checks off each of the other entities in the isolated cycle to remove those entities as being possible output entities. Once all the entities in the sub-model 70 are identified, data is assigned to all of the data entities, including temporary data entities, and the sub-model is analyzed by submitting it to the system analysis algorithm.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 7-12, 14 and 19 have been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected species. Applicant's are submitting concurrently herewith a Petition to Review the Requirement for Restriction, and therefore these claims have not been canceled.

Claims 1, 3-6, 13 and 15-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as being anticipated by Hansen. The drawings have been objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) for the reasons set forth on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action.